

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 In illustrative embodiments, equivalent
network processing of packets is performed
at a single node instead of at a large number
of special purpose nodes. A single-pass
pipelined packet scan at the single node
permits required actions to be taken in an
10 integrated manner to avoid repetitive
processing. Processing is conveniently
accomplished in separate stateless and
stateful segments, with state-related
information derived during the stateless
15 packet scan segment tagged to processed
packets as required for subsequent stateful
processing.